

From: [Sally Gwin-Satterlee](#)
To: [Regional Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Comment for Thursday meeting regarding Hwy 1
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 10:05:52 AM

Please allow public comment at the beginning of the meeting. You need to know the public's views before making decisions. Please this is our community.

Please do NOT allow widening of Highway 1. The environmental impact report showed it would cause environmental damage. I am trying to be aware of my community and trying to make it better.

Sent from my iPhone


From: [Mark Mesiti-Miller](#)
To: [Regional Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Item 28. Oral Communications on TPW Agenda - June 16, 2022
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 3:47:24 PM
Attachments: [LTR to RTC from MMM re public comment on TPW agenda 2022 06 16.pdf](#)

Greetings,

Please forward the attached memo to all Commissioners and Commissioner Alternates, Executive Director Guy Preston, General Counsel Steve Mattas and other RTC staff as appropriate.

Thank you,

Mark

Mark Mesiti-Miller
seek justice, love mercy, walk humbly


June 14, 2022

Commissioners and Commissioner Alternates
Executive Director
Legal Counsel
Regional Transportation Commission

Re: Item 28. Oral Communications on TPW Agenda - June 16, 2022

This week's Transportation Policy Workshop agenda, for seemingly the first time, has made a sudden and unprecedented change in the traditional custom and practice of the RTC in holding the public comment / oral communications period at the beginning of its meetings.

By moving oral communications (aka public comment) to Item 28 as the last item before the closed session, you are doing a disservice to all residents who wish to address the commission on issues of importance or concern. With no time certain or even reasonable expectation, it makes it impossible for the public to anticipate when oral communications will be allowed, thus greatly hamstringing everyone who must schedule their participation in your meetings around work or other obligations.

Further, this action, without recent precedent or any explanation, is contrary to the spirit, if not the letter, of RTC's published 2019 Public Participation Plan which states:

*"...to the greatest extent possible, interagency consultation and **public participation** are an integral part of the regional transportation planning and decision making process.*

*The public participation policies and procedures described in this plan are structured to comply with all applicable federal and state legislation, rules, and express the **genuine regional value and interest for all residents of the Monterey Bay region to participate in the shaping and implementation of regional policies and decisions regarding the region's multimodal transportation system.**"*

While the Brown Act does not require oral communication be scheduled at the beginning of public meetings, it is the widely adopted practice of virtually every local city council and commission, and has been the practice of the RTC until this meeting. It seems unconscionable that such a significant change — one that only impacts public participation — would be made without prior discussion by the RTC, without input from the public, and without more public notice of such the change.

As a city/county resident, co-chair of the No Way Greenway Campaign Committee, and longtime active follower of RTC actions, I formally protest this change because it appears intended to discourage and limit public participation in the transportation planning and decision making of the RTC to serve the people you represent.

Thank you,
Mark Mesiti-Miller
Resident of the City and County of Santa Cruz